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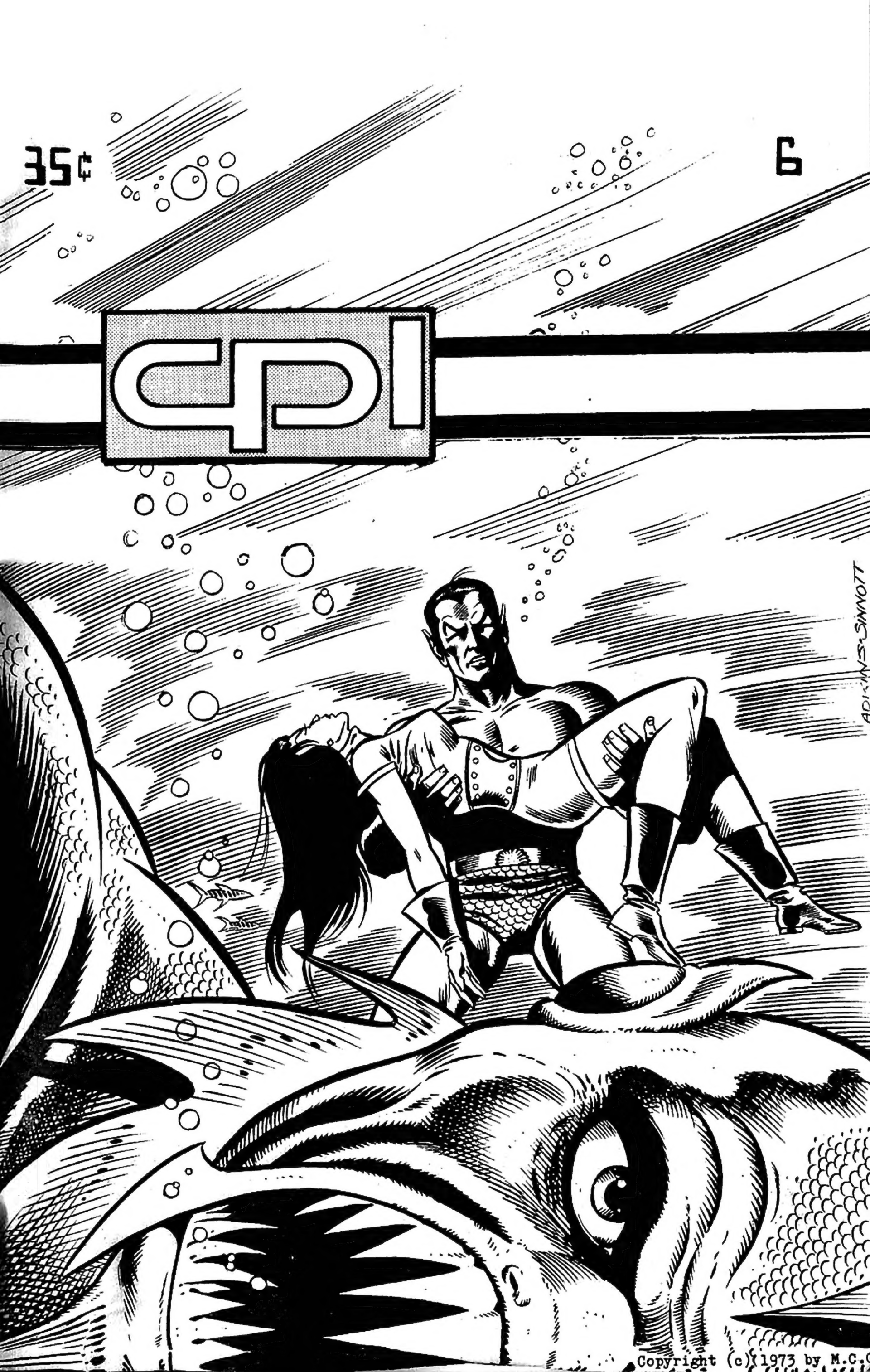

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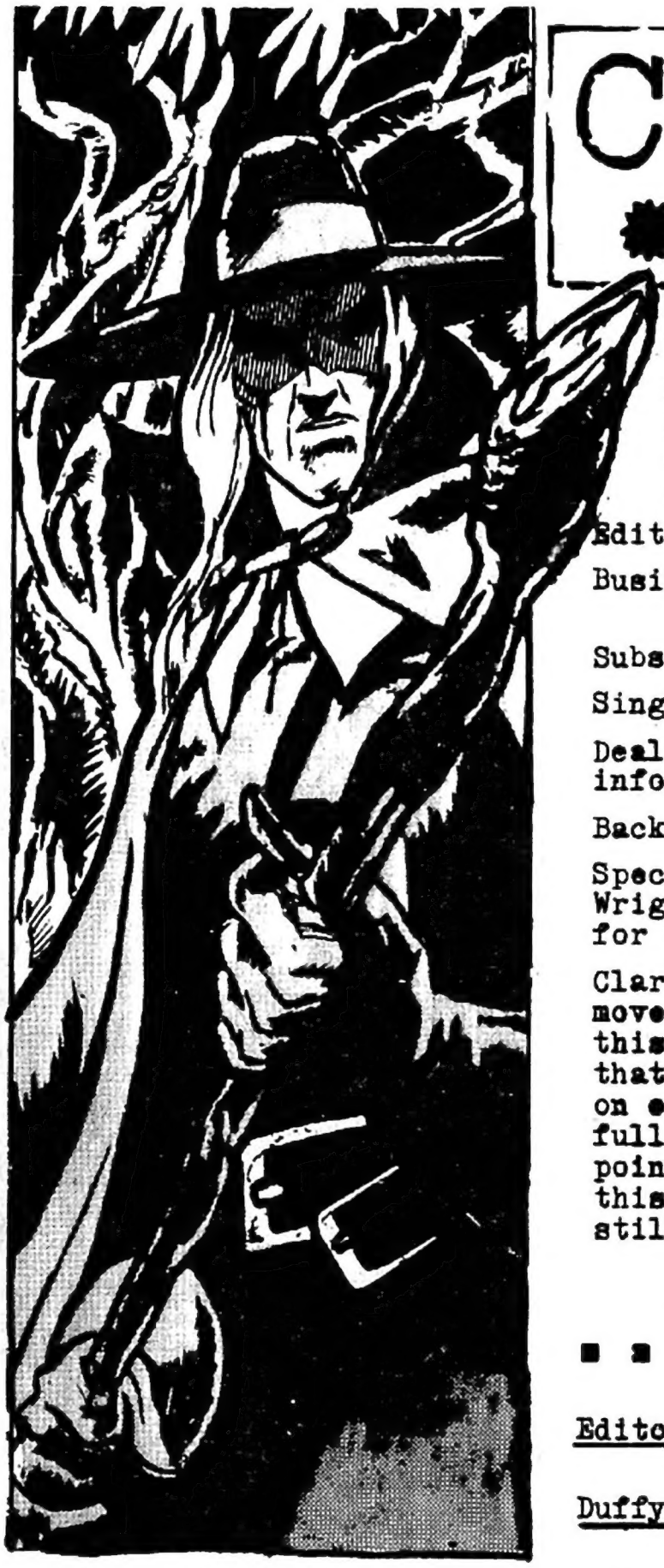

C.P.L./Gang
PUBLICATIONS

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Special Thanks Dept.: to Bill Kurtley for the Wrightson used last issue and Dave Hartman for the Gulacy centerfold.

Clarification Dept.: The reason behind CPL's move to not produce that zine mentioned in this spot last issue was because of the fact that both parties are presently preoccupied on other tasks and are not able to devote full time to both publications. It seems this point wasn't clear to a few people, so I hope this statement clarifies it. (See S.M., we're still the good guys!)

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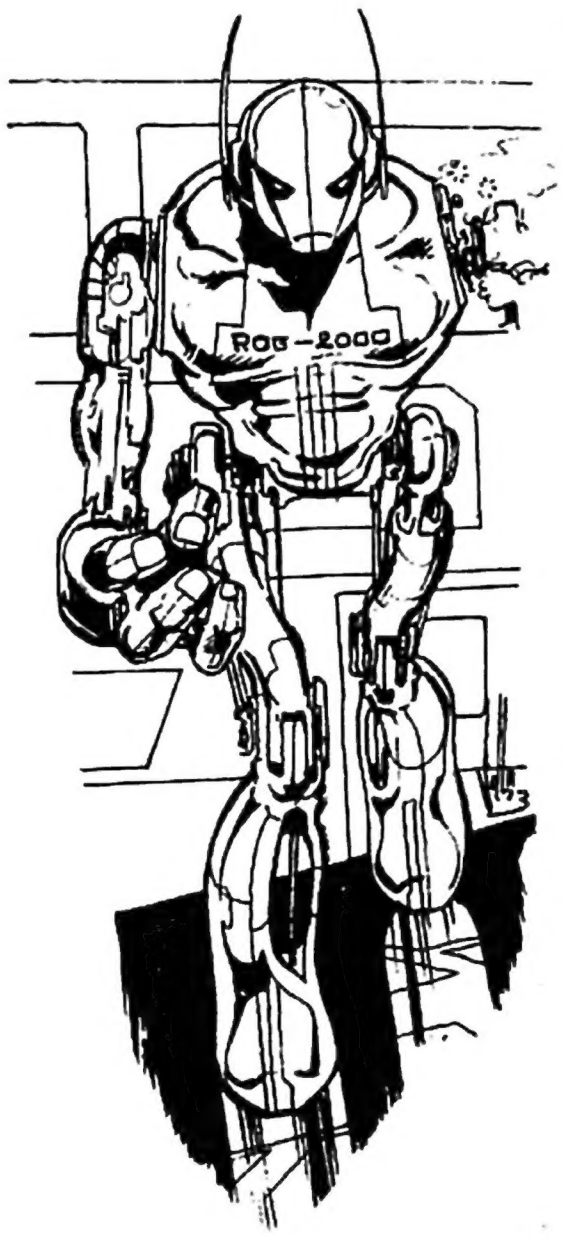
Artists this issue: Dan Adkins, John L. Byrne, Paul Gulacy, Bob Layton, Val Mayerik, Don Newton, Mike Royer, Joe Sinnott, and Duffy Vohland.(not to mention Howard the duck!) & Futitake

Robert B. Layton, 4010 Mallway Dr. Apt. A, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46236

EDITORIAL

Fanzines are nice; but I wouldn't give my best arm for one.

Someone who would is Rog 2000, pictured at the right of this page. Rogie is our new co-editor (to see what happened to our old co-editor see Revival-Survival later in this issue) and will be performing the jobs none of the Gang will do (like cleaning out Sterno's toilet). Rogie is a product of Byrne Robotics,Inc., Alberta, Canada.



One of Rogie's favorite humans (and our's too) is John L. Byrne. John is one of the best fan illustrators in the business, and we have little doubt that he will go on to become a top pro in the industry. He has been more than kind in turning out all sorts of nice art for us and even missed a few of his noon feeding times just to get a couple heavy rush items under the wire for this issue.We shall continue to display his works as long as he permits. For all you Byrne freaks that are interested in seeing more of his work, be sure to order the latest issue of Chronicle available for $1.00 from George Breo, 5600 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Ill.,60646

Now on to the only "pro" C.P.L staff member, Duffy Vohland (alais Nuepro!!) It seems the Big Apple has accepted Duffy with open arms and now is attempting to starve him out. From the repotts we have received, the diet of an average pro inker consists of one can of pineapple (crushed) and a jar of pickle relish per week.(Yechh!) We hope all of Duffy's fans sympathize and mail him an envelope full of peanut butter, and/or jelly. (You'll have to find your own loaf of bread, Duffy!). In case you haven't heard of Duffy before,which is next to impossible,his long list of credits include Etceters, Chronicle, The Collector, and many, many more. His pro credits (thus far) include backgrounds inks on Legion of Super-Heroes, Gullivar Jones (Monsters Unleashed#4) and a multitude of D.C. reprint titles including the dollar editions. This issue Duffy contributes his column, "Duffy's Tavern" and inks throughout the magazine.Thanks Duffy, but don't work so hard or you may just waste away to a mere two-hundred pounds!!

Special thank goes out to another budding professional and long-time fan talent Don Newton. Don came through for us with some remarkable artwork which we'll be displaying in this and future issues. Watch for Don's first story in an upcoming Ghost Manor comic by Charlton.

In answer to many requests,C.P.L. will be expanding at the beginning of the new year. We have plans to enlarge to 32 pages and wrap-around covers, although we can't guarantee that everything will go as planned. But we are sure you'll like the change.

In case you don't notice,C.P.L.is not selling comics anymore. Thanks to your support of C.P.L. we now are able to function independantly as a fanzine. I wish to thank all our good customers during the past year and it is our sincere hope that you continue with C.P.L. as we grow.

We are still not receiving as many letters as we would like, so hop to it!!

Next issue features a ten page interview with Craig Russell (of Ant Man fame), a Val Mayerik portfolio and much, much, more. Be there!

Heavy Hemoungers,

Bob & Rog

R.I.P.

Burp! ('Scuse me, there;just finished off a few (Well...) cans of Budweiser Malt Liquor.) To tell the truth, I didn't really plan on writing one of dese tings er.., I mean, these things (Brooklyn life is already affecting my speech pattern!!) for this ish of CPL, seeing as how I've inked a couple of pounds of art over the last month for Little Bobby Layton and crew, but here it is. (My! My! I can hear all the cheers (or is that jeers?) in the audience now.)

It's very strange living so close to the comix industry now. I'm constantly hearing mounds 'n' mounds of news items that I'm bursting to tell the world about, but can't. It might drive a sane man crazy, but since I've never claimed to be a"sane man" I guess I have nothing to worry about. One little tidbit I think might be okay to mention is that the Guardians of the Galaxy will be revived for a team-up with the Thing in Marvel Two-In-One in the not too distant future. (Well, technically it will be in the far future;but,er um.....you know what I mean....I hope.)

I want all of you to be sure to send in your "Save Howard Duck" coupons. I talked to Howie the other day, and he's counting on all of CPL's readers' support. Don't let the little guy down--hokay? (Now all I gotta do is talk Lovable Layton into using a page of the next CPL for a similar campaign for Animal Man. Okay Bobby?)

If any of you guys haven't picked up E-Man yet, let it be known that this is an official plug*. I also want to plug Warren's Eerie. Since going to an all-series format, its terrific.

In case you haven't heard, theres a bad paper shortage facing the comics industry at the moment, and its effects will be surfacing in a few short months. I'm not at liberty to say what these effects are, but I will say that they won't make anyone happy.

I'm now hanging around with a new bunch of nuts (By name:Paul Kupperberg, Steve Gilary, Paul Levitz, Joe Jenkins, Carl Gafford, Tony Isabella and Liam O'Connor) and contrary to rumor, they're all terrific people. (Only trouble is I think the rumors were started by these guys, too!) Sadly, we recently lost one of our cohorts,by the name of Dwight Decker--he heard the call of the Great Toledo Bird, and had to answer.

On a happier (thats debatable!) note, by the time you read this, Raunchy Rogie Slifer should be moved out here and living with me,and trying to break into comics (as a what, I'm not sure). PK was thrilled (HA!) when I told him about the arrival of Silly Slifer; seems he (and Steve Gilary) are especially "fond" (note the quotes!) of Rogie because of a Revival-Survival RS once sent them for Etcetera #1 hand-written in red ink. (Hard to believe ol' Stevie had 20/20 vision before he attempted to type up the Slifer's article!)

Would anybody else out there happen to like the "I Love Lucy" TV show; or am I the only one? How about Bette Midler? Godzilla? (Some people have the nerve to say I have weird tastes! I can't figure out why!) Oh,and would anyone out there like to see the Banshee (from The X-Men) join or guest-star with The Defenders?

Tiny. Miniscule. Little. (This is just some more small talk.)(Am I sick, or am I sick?!!?

Y'know, when Bob (Evil Editor) Layton first asked me to do a "DT" for thish, I asked him what I should talk about--he said he didn't care if I talked about nothing. I think I've pretty well complied with his suggestion--don't you?

Write Soonest

Pax,

Duffy Vohland
7218 Bergen Ct.
Brooklyn,N.Y.
11234

DUFFY'S TAVERN

The Secret Life of Peter Parker (part I)

UNCLE BEN'S CONVERTED LIFE

In September of 1962, there appeared in the pages of AMAZING FANTASY #15 a skinny, mild-mannered high school student who looked as if he should have been posing for 98Lb. weakling commercials instead of becoming one of the most fierce and courageous crime fighters of all time.

As pointed out in a later issue of Spider-Man (Spider-Man Annual #5) Peter Parker's parents left him in the care of his aunt and uncle while Richard and Mary Parker completed an assignment and he was left in custody of his only living relatives, Ben and May Parker. Although retired for many years, they continued to raise Peter like their own son, which brings us to the question of how did they get the money to raise a child in the first place?

Uncle Ben, depicted as a salty old gent, was always purchasing new items for Peter to show his love, although the finacial end of how he could afford to was never explained. One would assume that at the age that Uncle Ben was pictured in the comic, he would be sustaining on a pension. A pension, as you can concur, is quite insufficent to finance a home, wife and child. Therefor we must assume that he sought other means of obtaining funds and if we look close enough to the Spider-Man saga, we can discover a logical and alarming assumption. That assumption being that Uncle Ben might not have been an honest man!

Where, you might ask, is this to be found? As you remember from the Spider-Man origin, Parker developed his new-found powers, turning them into cold, hard cash by becoming an entertainer. And one night after a performance at the C.B.S. studios, a second story man was caught in the middle of a daring robbery and was forced to flee. Spider-Man, appearing from his dressing room, saw the burglar running from the unsuccessful heist but made no attempt to stop him

Now, place yourself in the burglars shoes for a minute. If you were running from an unsuccessful robbery, where would be the logical place to go? Would you go to some pre-arranged spot to hide out or would you try to get out of town until the heat blew over? Logically, you would put as much distance between the police and yourself as possible, but the burglar didn't. He ran (of all places!) to an old retired couple's home somewhere in the middle of the suburbs to hide out. Was this out of panic or was it possibly pre-arranged? Let's assume for the moment that it was pre-arranged. What possible business could a second story man have with an old retired gent? One possibility is that Ben and the burglar were somehow related. Another, (and the most likely!) is that Uncle Ben was a dealer in stolen or hot items, or in more common terms, a FENCE! By assuming that this theory is correct, a few loose ends in the Spider-Man origin fall into place.

Uncle Ben, who's only affection is for his wife and nephew, buys Peter an expensive microscope for his birthday. He uses the money that belongs to the burglar from his last job, to buy the microscope. Ben assumes that he can replace the money from his share of the profits of the next job, before the burglar can notice that it's gone. Later that evening the burglar enters through the back door and confronts Uncle Ben, shaken and scared from his near capture by the police. The burglar asks for his money so he can leave town, but Ben isn't able to comply. Suspecting a double-cross the burglar, in his nervous and angry state, shoots and kills Uncle Ben. Aunt May, ignorant of any of the goings-ons, runs to the back of the house to find Ben's body sprawled on the floor, assuming that he surprised a prowler and was shot in the struggle.

If Spider-Man was to find out that Uncle Ben was a fence, his entire career would be unjustified. His motive for fighting crime in the first place is his guilty conscience, his feeling that he was responsible for his uncle's death. Although he could have captured the burglar at the studio, the criminal would have revealed that Uncle Ben was involved in the selling of stolen items and they both would have faced long prison terms. What would be the effect of this on young Parker? Peter probably would have continued his entertainment career as Spider-Man. That Spider-Man would be a self-centered, glory seeking television personality instead of being the friendly web-slinger we know now.

Even if this theory about Uncle Ben <u>is</u> true, let's hope Spidey never finds out about it!

W. E. O'Barrow

BRING BACK HOWARD THE DUCK !

During the past few years we have seen many great characters fade into comic book limbo before their time.. .....Nightmaster, Captain Atom, The Cat, The Creeper, The Scarlet woman of Babylon,...but now is the time to make a stand! No longer can fandom stand idlely by! For now one of the most unique, most potentially great cha acters of all time has been introduced to the four-color page only to be thrown aside after but a few pages of existance. I speak of Howard the duck. It is the duty of comic book fandom to stand up and be counted! We can not...we must not let Howard die! Our duty is clear! We must haunt the newstands & the candy stores buying up every single book that holds his few brief appearances! And we must flood the mails with letters of protest! Right now...this very minute..write a letter....start a petition...or clip our coupon below and send it:**

To: Mr. Ted Sallis c/o
Marvel Comics Group
575 Madison Ave.
New York, N.Y.
10022

Gentlemen:.

Please save Howard the duck immediately!!!

(your name here)

cut along dotted line

With your help, we can save Howard for years of productive fullfillment as a guest star....in team-ups....in his own strip.....or even a book of his own!!!

Reg 2000

**True fanzine affectionatos will want to get an extra copy anyway...heh?!

MOVING

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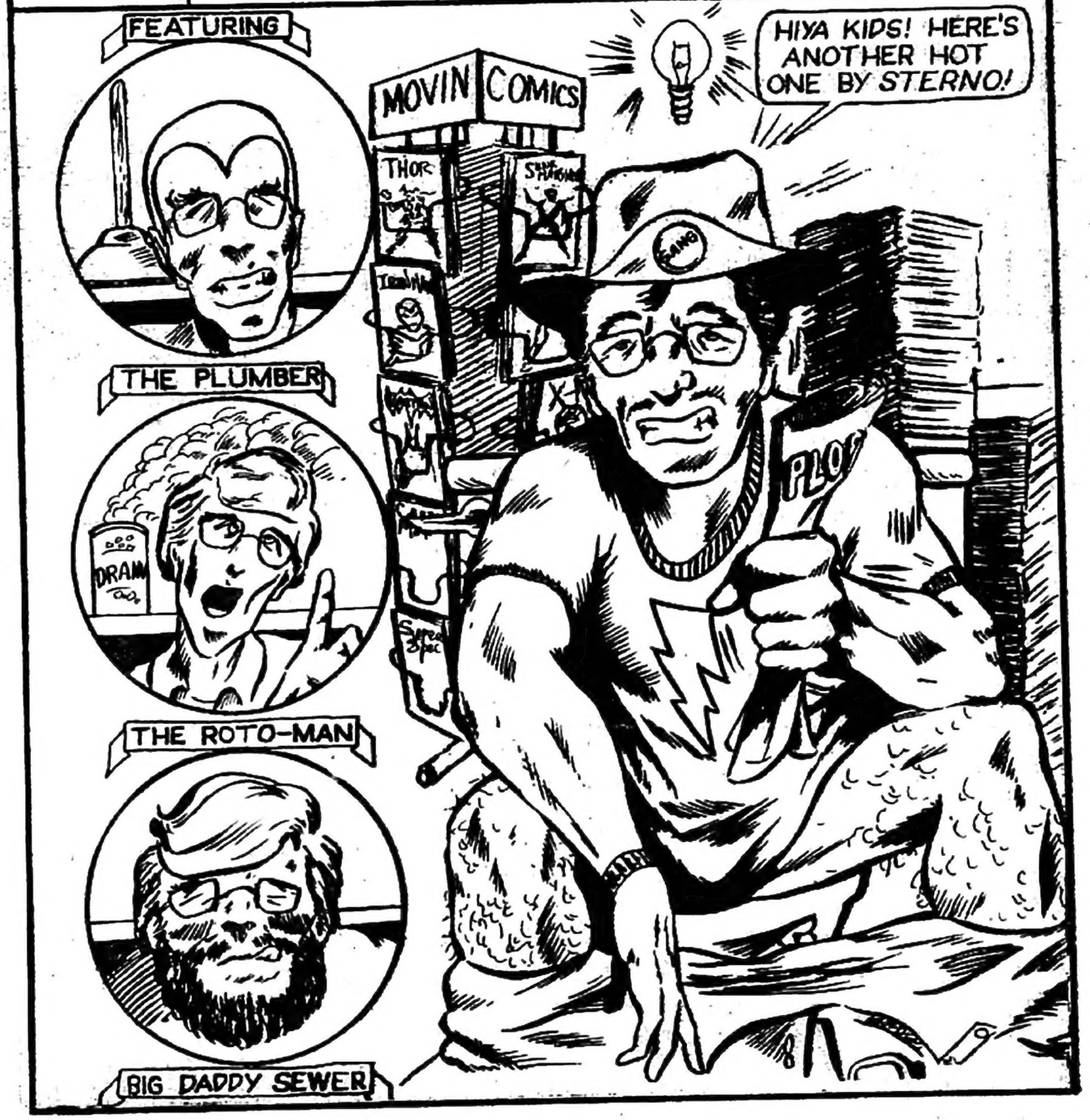
NO. 1 or 2

TOMES FROM THE TOILET

2¢ worth



"Be there a fan with bowells so fey, that ne'er to himself did say, 'Boy, that was a great...comic!'?"

Praise the Lord, America still reads. With all the television,movies, light shows, and other multamedia diversions.....America still reads! And where does America read, pray tell? In the libraries and in the fields, in parlors, on street corners, on stoops, in door ways, alleyways, & right-of-ways..and down at the newstand where some old guy with a pauch the size of Gibraltar & breath that tarnishes silver bellows, "This ain't no lendin' liberry!" Yes, America reads in all of these places and more. And one more such place is the good ol' toilet.

Well, don't look so blamed offended! You knew what you were wading into when you saw the title! Now, where were we? Ah, yes.America reads in the john! And what could make more sense? The time spent on the toilet that encompasses some of life's brief moments of blissful solitude. What better time to catch up on your reading? After all, it's not as though you can't do two things at once. Right?

So what of the comics fan? Though by all means a unique segment of our widely-variant society, he is hardly vulnerable to the vices & desires of the rest. Why shouldn't he enjoy his four-color world whilst taking his rest? Is there some one who would deny that comics are a form of escape...a release from the tensions of a more mundane world? Comics and the bathrooms of America go hand in hand.....be they chemical Porta-John or rustic two-holes. As a matter of fact, one of the most moving experiences I ever had was sitting on the crapper in John Medero's second-floor walk-up while reading ALL-STAR #3. A truly beautiful memory!

Now there are those who would accuse me of perversity, perhaps even of being anally preoccupied. The only thing I could suggest to those poor souls is that committ an perverted act upon themselves. They wouldn't know a good time if they had one! (Actually, I would have phrased my suggestion in blunter terms, but my editor is chickenguano.)

Now, if you think about it, it is possible that comics could be a whole new kind of relief to an uptight citizenry. But to make my point, we must go back in time nearly a year.....

It was a brisk December day, All was peaceful. I was in my Bloomington apartment, seated gracefully atop the porcelin convenience contemplating an impending lack of employ & perusing the very latest Avengers. It was a scene of blissful tranquility. It was not to last.

"POUND- POUND- POUND!" came the knocks at the door.

Between those knocks was a furtive cry. "Sterno! Come here, quick!"

It was my roommate. one Franklin W. Maynerd. The 'W' stands for Whinthrop.

"Uh, I'm a bit occupied right now, Frank!"

"Oh, it's awful....it's just ful." I heard him moan.

Continued on page 14...

Sterno's Hot Ones

A dozen horrible things flashed through my mind..(1) Frank had burnt supper again...(2) the apartment was on fire....(3) we were under nuclear attack.....or....or...a quick glance reassured me.....at least there wasn't a toilet paper shortage!

"What's the matter, Frank?"

"It's just awful! I'll never see a decent bowell movement again!"

"Look, I told ya to lay off those prunes!"

"It's not the prunes. They've cancelled Life!"

It took the better part of thirty seconds to reassure myself that the nervous Mister Maynerd was talking about a magazine and not a state of physical being. Needless to say, I was perplexed.

"Maybe I'm not hearing right," I began. "How can Life magazine's cancellation throw your shphincters into a frenzy?"

"Look....." started Frank.

"That's already been cancelled, Frank!"

"Okay, be a smart a...! But for every Thursday night for as long as I can remember, I've relieved myself while reading Life. Now that it's gone, what'll I do?"

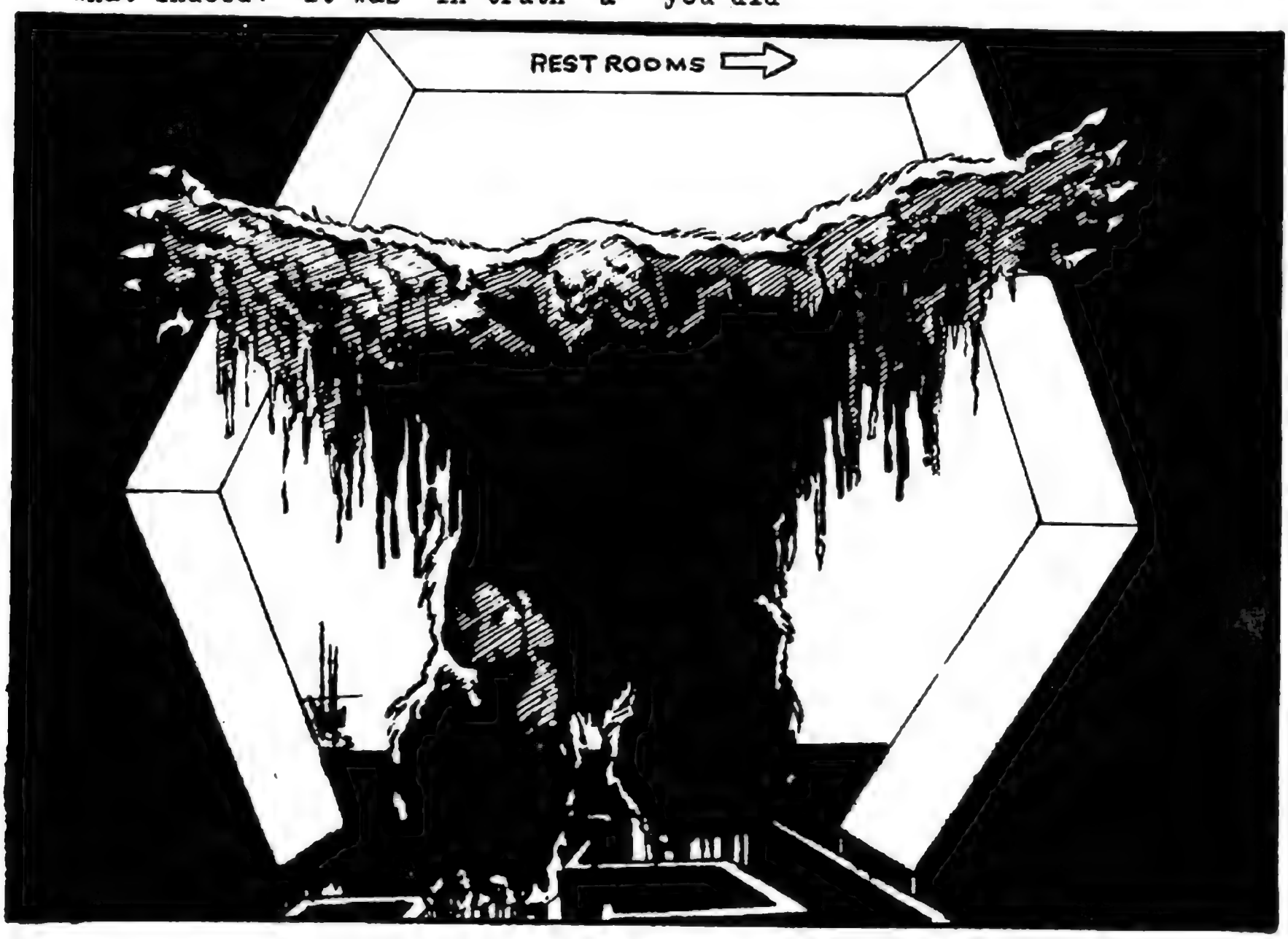
What indeed? It was in truth a dire problem. The mere thought of untold millions of clean- living Americans...their john-side magazine racks already deprived of the old Post & Look, and now Life itself! What a horrendous situtation! Imagine....a whole nation of the constipated.

And then it struck me! What was the crapper-side appeal of the big, slick magazines? Why, vivid illos and thrilling stories, of course! Here, then, in my lap was the salvation of America! The comic book!The transition would be simple. All that was required was the proper suggestion. My duty was clear. My job there done, I pulled up my trou and flung open the door.

"Franklin, me lad, I've got just the thing you need!"

At first he scoffed, but after a week-and-a-half of constricted movement, F. W. broke down. I'll never forget that sight! Dog-eared copies of Adventure in hand,he stumbled in to the john. Within minutes the air was split with a roar like unto the beginning of the holocaust. And through the door I hear him say,"By God it works!"

And so, I say to you now.....are you constipated? Do you know some one who is? Read a comic book tonight....on the john! You'll be glad you did



MIKE ROYER

ONE LAST DESPERATE CHANCE

Due to the heavy influx of mail about my article last issue (all of you preferred it to the mailing label)Bob has allocated another two pages for my further abuse of the English language. In fact, time and Purdue University permitting, all future issues of CPL will have One Last Desperate Chance gracing it's interior. Now aren't you sorry you subscribed.

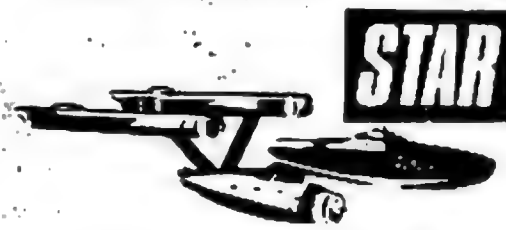
Generally this column will be an easy-going,rambling piece with news opinions, guesses,out-right lies & anything else my perverse imagination concocts.What would you like to read about? Comments,suggestions or what-have-you will always be read. The address is somewhere in this furshlugginer fanzine.

This past summer saw the rise a new film genre, the chop-socky martial arts movie, along with the rise of Chinese actor Bruce Lee,the master of kung-fu,karate,jeet kung do and mayhem in general. You know the kind of movie even if you never seen one before, non-stop action, little plot, lotsa noise. Somehow though,it caught on with the public. VARIETY for September 17th,has Lady Kung Fu, one of the newest,netting $699,000 in its first week of U.S. release. Enter the Dragon, one of the best,had a budget of $550,000 and has took in nearly 5½ million dollars.Dragon set a 1st. week houde record of $134,513 at Chicago's State Lake Theatre.The list of new releases seems endless. Almost every week sees the premiere of a low budget addition,promising to shock, thrill and amuse you.

The chief participant and primary star of the genre,hero of four top money makers (including the above Enter the Dragon) was Bruce Lee. I say was because on July 20 Lee died of unknown causes at the age of 32. In his brief life, Lee appeared in numerous movies, early as his childhood. The start of his martial arts training dates back to about the same period. Later his family moved to the United States where he eventually graduated in philosophy from the University of Washiggton where, incidentally, he met his future wife, Linda.

Lee opened a series of karate schools in Los Angeles where he was "discovered" at an internationial karate tournament- the prize being the role of Kato in the Green Hornet television series. He also appeared in the Batman and in the Longstreet series and in the 1966 movie 'Marlowe'. The actual circumstances behind his death are shrouded in mystery. Lee regularly smoked marijuana and was taking drugs for an injury sustained in one movie. At last report, his body was to be exhumed and a more careful examination carried out.

One can personally wonder at the man but there is no doubt over the impact his presence makes in his movies. The name Bruce Lee will linger whether the martial arts movie craze endures or disappears.



Back last November when NBC announced the Star Trek cartoon show on their Saturday morning line-up you could hear fans groan from coast to coast. A cartoon?!! Is that all three years of faithful letter writing accpmplished? Further news assuanged the grumbling into more optimistic misgivings.After all wasn't William Shatner's, Leonard Nimoy's, and the other's voices going to be used. And Gene Roddenberry would continue as the show's 'father',to make sure no network clown would mutilate his brainchild. Fears were allayed at the New York Con when the one minute introduction was sneak- previewed. Except for the music the cartoon's opening was identical to the live action show. Once more William Shatner would quicken the hearts and bring goose pimples to the arms of watchers everywhere with the immortal words "to boldly go where no man has gone before!"

As of September 8th Star Trek lived again. Opening with "Beyond the Farthest Star" for all intents and purposes nothing changed. Except for Walter Koenig's abscence which meant the dropping of Ensign Chekov from the show.And what replaces him?

STAR TREK LIVES!

In his place came a character even more alien than Mr. Spock, a bug-dog creature addressed as Mr. Eriks. The first show found the Enterprise investigating a monstrous abandoned ship obviously the artifact of some insect-like alien race. Action seemed to be of prime import with a "Kill-the-Beastie plot" easily on level with the original series. Much more characterization and a more literate plot highlighted Spock's return to Vulcan in the second show. It seems while examining the time portal discovered in Harlin Ellison's "City on the Edge of Forever" history was altered. No Mr. Spock exists in this alternate universe. To put history aright, Spock goes back to Vulcan's past to encounter his younger self before his first test of manhood. Out of the first four shows seen as of this article (10-2-73) the third Star Trek show seemed to be the least effective. A nebulous cloud mass is planet-disecting its way into our galaxy with its next port of call a densely populated planet. The Enterprise investigates and is digested. (Yawn.) But now things become interesting. Before blowing himself up in a one last desperate chance to stop the thing, Kirk has Spock establish a mind-meld. He succeeds & finds out the cloud is not aware of the life it is approaching. Kirk convinces it to turn back even though it means eventual starvation. A little drama at the end saves the day and/or the story. Rumor had it that after the third show,better stories would appear and with "The Lorelei Signal " rumor became fact. In a truly brilliant piece of writing the women of the Enterprise take over the ship when the men are all smitten by a siren-like call. When the Captain , Mr. Spock, and Dr. McCoy slowly age as their life force is drained,it is the women who beam down in a rescue party to save them.In a truly touching scene, one keeping with and furthering the established characterizations, Spock refers to Nurse Chapel as"Christine" when it appears he will die. But finally a great bit of techological mumbo-jumbo reverses the aging process when the transporter (which still contains the men's original metabolic pattern,you see) is rewired and the men beam up back in original shape. No, don't worry about the new Star Trek eroding the cherish mythos. Older Trekkies should be satisfied with this substitute and new fans can start thinking about writing to NBC for reviving the real series.

ALL*THE*NEWS*THAT*FITS* DEPT. (or What a Way to End a Column!)

Big, big news! My distributor said last week that National is making a 30% cut back in titles to become effective by Jan. 1st.,1974. Looks like the paper shortage is hurting the comics industry as well as fan publications. (C.P.L. included!) With this big of a cut most of the newer titles might be slated for a quick death, so don't be so sure that titles like KORAK, IRONWOLF, SANDMAN, LOIS LANE, JIMMY OLSEN or SUPERGIRL, PLOP, DARK MANSION, and others are in the "safe" column. The cut is just to large to tell. Letter writing will do little good since the cut back has little to do with sales. Marvel is losing a few also, as Brother Voodoo bites the dust along with Thongor. Charlton is suspending all publications for a two month period, also due to the paper shortage.

On this cryptic note, O.L.D.C. ends. More next issue.(If your good and buy lots of copies of C.P.L.!)

Grackle borgward,
'Doc' Larry Brnicky

Postscripts:
Dr. Strange is getting his own book (at last!!), Daredevil returns to a monthly schedule, Jim Mooney is the artist on Marvel Spotlight, and new B & W books are Planet of the Apes by Steve Gerber and Ross Andru and Hand of Kung-Fu by Roy Thomas and Gil Kane.

ONE LAST DESPERATE CHANCE

FujiTAKE
Vohland

REVIVAL-SURVIVAL

Here I am right in the middle of work and a 1500 mile move and editor Bob wants me to do an intelligent informative article. But don't get your hopes up out there! All you're going to get is my usual samplings of meanderings, opinions, and what have you.

While sitting over at Bob's somewhere between threats and hot chocolate (Thanks Lee. For the hot chocolate, not the threats!).Bob brought up a character that definately needs revamping. A character that used to be on my "read these first" list and has slipped down to the "Well, I'll read it if I get time" list. The character? Why, Daredevil the man without fear!

During our course of discussing Daredevil we also thought of some changes that might bring back some of the appeal that Daredevil had a few years back. The first thought we had was; 'Why not put Daredevil back in his old black and yellow costume for an issue or two?' Let's say in an effort to get his head together when he gets back to New York he dons the old duds to get a fresh start. This would give the elder reader something to get nostalgic about and be a nice change of pace for the newer readers.

The second thing we think they should do is bring back his secret identity. A lawyer as a secret identity is interesting and could lead to many cases in which Daredevil could get involved. This has been done a few times in the past but not lately.

Another thing they've got to do is emphasize that DD is <u>sightless</u>. Daredevil <u>cannot</u> see, but they've made his radar sense so powerful in the last couple of years that Daredevil doesn't seem to be any different from any other super-hero on the market. Daredevil <u>should</u> be able to do anything any of the other heroes can; but he should have a heck of a lot more trouble doing it!

What ever happened to the good old days when Daredevil would chase down a man by following the strong scent of his cigar? Or wouldn't be able to recognize a person when they walked into the room and he recognized their voice or some other audible thing he was familiar with? Or when Daredevil's radar sense got him confused in a crowd forcing him to be a loner? Or..but you get the idea.

And speaking of the old days, how long has it been since Daredevil 's fought some good old down to earth thugs? Not super-criminals or earth conquering super-villains, but good old fashioned bank robbers, jewel thieves and the like. Why is every one fighting for power these days? Doesn't anyone care for the good old devaluating dollar anymore? I yearn for the good old days when a do-badder's reason for turning to crime was to "get rich quick" not rule the world. These guys could care less about the world just so long as they had a place to fence their stolen goods.

The second major fault with Daredevil at the moment is the art work. Gene Colan had done Daredevil for so long that Daredevil had become Gene's character as much as Deadman is Neal Adams'. But once Colan got so many commitments that he could no longer do Daredevil, Marvel began a floundering about trying to find a suitable replacement.

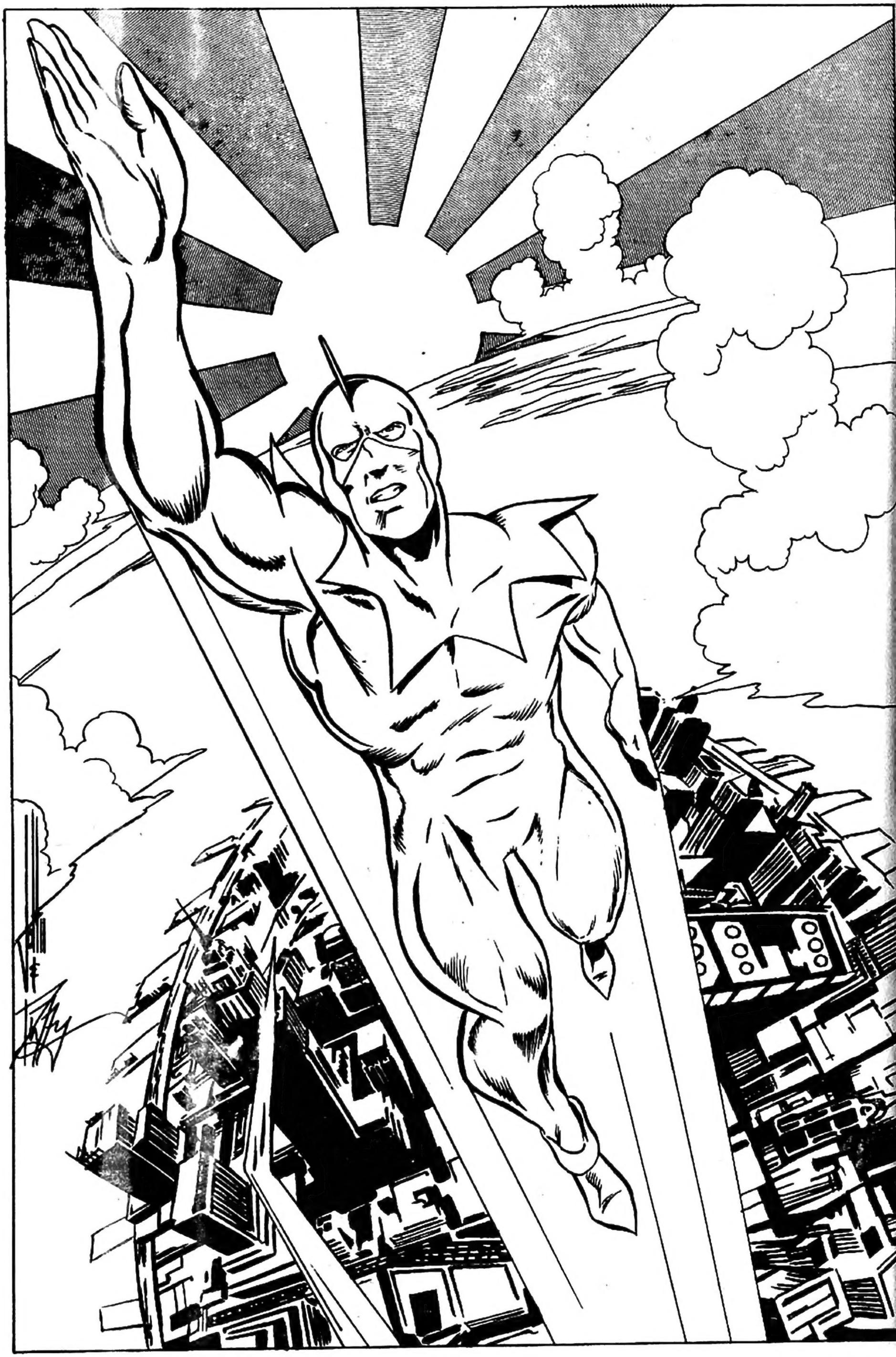
Sam Kweskin's job on #99 was one of the worst art jobs I've ever seen. Rich Buckler's job for #101 would probably been better if he would have had a better inker, but he and Giacoia just didn't mesh.

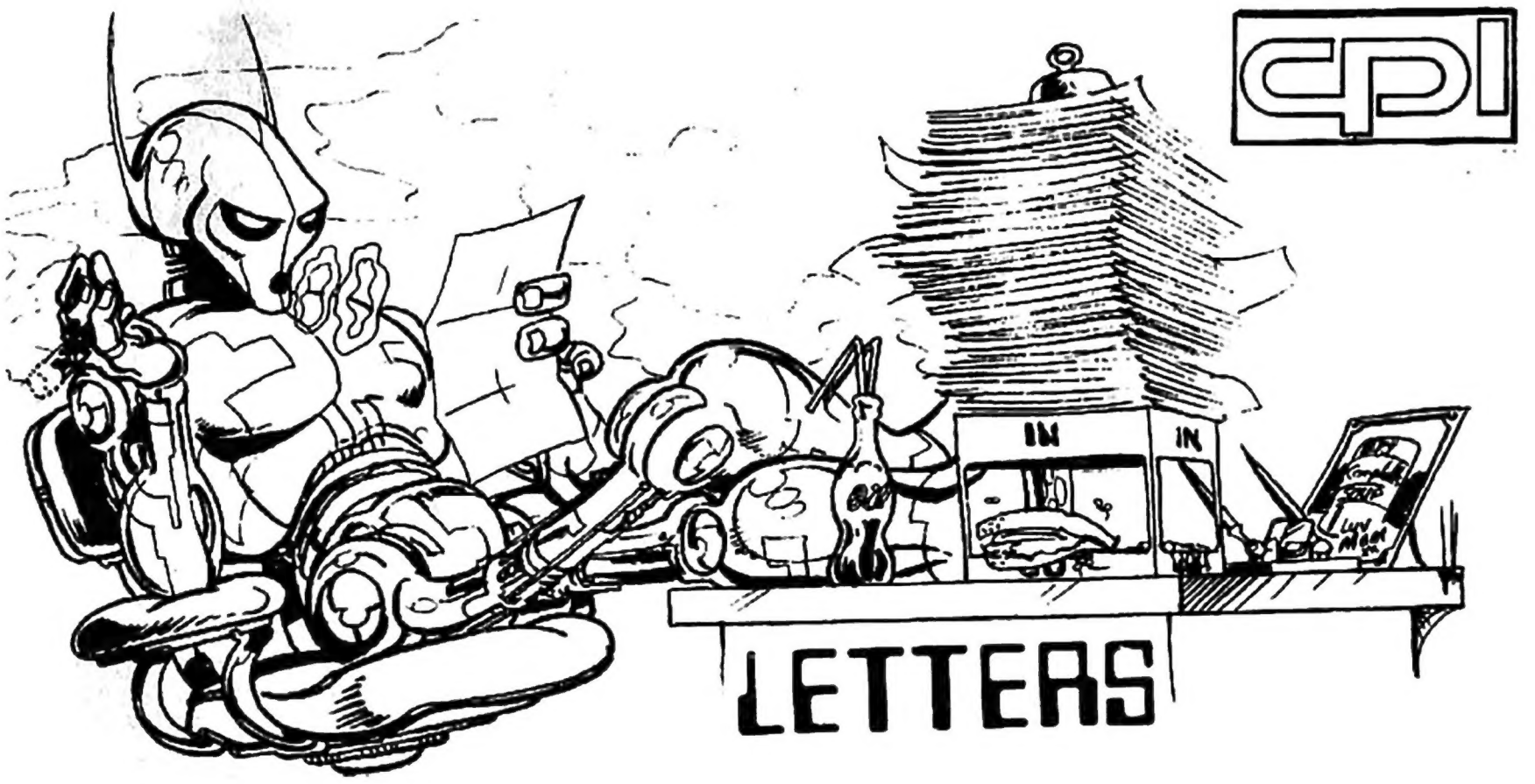
Syd Shores job on #102 was very reminesent of Gene Colan's early work and if not for Syd's untimely death it would have been nice to see him on the book. Don Heck's work on the magazine since taking over(#103) has been very unsatisfactory. Don Heck needs an inker who will put more of himself in it and tone down the raw Heck. Perlin did this better than Trapani but still not enough to suit my tastes.

I hope when Daredevil returns to New York that they will revert a little more to the past and bring back villains like the Cobra and Mr. Hyde; the Unholy Three; the Jester; The Tribune; and some good old everyday <u>hoods</u> for Gosh sakes. Lets hope they also bring back some of his supporting cast like Foggy Nelson and Willie Lincoln. And speaking of the old days, I wonder what Wally Wood is doing these days....

I'm going to get off the track a

(Continued on page 22.)





Dear Bob,

First off, I'll just go over CPL #5 and comment point by point. The cover needless to say, looked very nice. It has an attractive appeal to it and the grey cast given to Doc is a very interesting effect. The inside cover by John and Duffy likewise has a nice appeal. I was living with Duffy at the time he received it from John and inked it, so just looking at it reminds me of those pleasant times. Needless to say, CPL has greatly improved since the earier issues. It has nice, crisp lay-outs, good art and very enjoyable text. I really did like your editorial. Your descriptions of Rog, Sterno, and 'Doc' were excellent.

Roger did draw some interesting comparisons between the Avenger and Doc Savage. I've only read the first book in both series so I'm not really a seasoned reader of either. I'm a Tarzan and Conan fan myself.

'Doc' Larry's column was handled nicely. I really didn't care for the comic version of Doc, though. The time just wasn't taken to explain things and everything was simply compacted too much. Prince Valiant suffered from the same thing when Hastings House adapted his -dventures into hardbacks.

I hate to pick favorites but I do favor Sterno's article over the rest. He didn't rehash the Shadow, instead he explains the Shadow's impression on his childhood. I'm sure that since you read it, you know what I'm talking about.

On the whole (and in parts) a very enjoyable issue. I'm looking foward to the next one.

Dave Hartman
Hoopston, Ill.

Okay You "Gangsters,

One of the hardest things for me to do is comment on the publishing efforts of friends; and the collective bunch of CPL staffers and contributors have been just that to me for years. I've followed the prescription of putting CPL into it's proper catagory in order to prevent myself from comparing it to works such as Comixscene, Witzend and my beloved RB-CC. With this formula, any guilt I may have in praising CPL #5 is unjustified. I can criticize objectively.

CPL #5 has two salient points. One is that the size of the zine is perfect for reading. I find it easier to handle than tabloid zines. The second, and most important decision you made was to capitalize on the "Gang's" speciality, the pulps heroes. Other readers are at the disadvantage of not having exchanged cassette tapes with messrs. Brnicky, Layton, Slifer and Sterno as I have, hence they may be unaware that the articles were penned with good background knowledge. The art? The cast of participants speaks for it: Wrightson, Adams, Byrne and a jumbo-sized stranger by the name of Duffy. They add up to quality.

My mail brings me art work and zines by the pound. My experience makes me selfishly assume an ultrasophisticated attitude in judging such fare. For 35¢, you guys have one of the best bargains it has been my pleasure to read in some time. You can be proud of the product issue #5 represents.

Bestest,
Howard Siegel
Yonkers, N.Y.

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